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Letter dated 27 April 2017 from the Permanent Representatives of France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Following the recent Arria formula meeting co-organized by the Permanent Missions of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America with the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic of the Human Rights Council, Mr. Pinheiro, on 21 April 2017, we have the honour to draw your attention to the latest report of the Commission of Inquiry, issued on 10 March 2017 (A/HRC/34/CRP.3).[1]

The report presents a detailed and sobering account of widespread and systematic human rights violations that have been and are being committed.

The human rights situation in Syria is dire and continues to deteriorate, with civilians paying a disproportionately high price. The Commission of Inquiry, established on 23 August 2011, has been gathering evidence of such violations and abuses in Syria, some of which may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, since the inception of the conflict.

We request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) François **Delattre**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Matthew **Rycroft**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom
to the United Nations

[1] Available from the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

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